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COAL SITUATION IMPROVES

Crisis May Mean Cut In Meat Rations

London, Feb. 18.
Britons already frustrated by coal shortages, electricity cuts and slender rations, were told to-night that their slim candy and meat rations may be cut still further.

The Food Minister, Mr. John Strachey, said at a press conference that the 100% cut in electricity to industries in a wide belt of England had shut down candy factories. As a result, he said, the candy ration of 12 ounces per month to adults and one pound to children under 16 probably would have to be reduced.

Mr. Strachey also warned that if Dominion dock stoppages continued, the meat ration would have to be reduced again. The present meat ration consists partly of corned beef.

The Food Ministry Inter-announced that current ration coupons for soap, meat and other foods which shops could not honour because of shortages may be used in the next period, beginning March 2. Transportation delays because of the freezing weather were believed responsible for the shortages.

COAL PRODUCTION UP

Mr. Strachey's news was given one day before he was scheduled to leave for America and shortly before 10 Downing Street issued a statement that coal production had increased despite difficult conditions since the emergency power restrictions began eight days ago.

The statement said Mr. Attlee would speak in the Commons on the situation and reported that more than 230,000 tons of coal had been saved since restrictions began.

The statement said coal deliveries to London by sea during the last three days had been 25% above the daily average for the winter, but warned that severe weather conditions still would make the situation difficult.

It contained no indication when electricity restrictions would be lifted. The weather forecast was still very cold and frosty for most areas.—United Press.

STOP PRESS

TWO MILLION OUT OF WORK

London, Feb. 18.
When Premier Attlee addresses Parliament to-night on the fuel crisis, it is expected that he will give an indication of the date and speed at which industry will resume work.

An official statement issued by the Government to-night showed that the paralysis of the different branches of industry through the holdup of coal has thrown over 2,000,000 people out of work.

The statement was issued after a meeting of the joint committee of ministers and representatives of the Coal Board, the Central Electricity Board and the Railway Executive Committee set up by the Prime Minister to take decisions and co-ordinate action on the coal emergency.—Reuter.

Power Stations Have 11 Days' Supply

London, Feb. 18.
Britain's fuel crisis is gradually lifting. Coal stocks are being built up and transport from pit-heads to power stations is returning to normal. At today's Ministry of Fuel press conference it was disclosed that coal stocks of electricity power stations have risen a further 36,000 tons and now stand at 11 days' supply.

Gas stocks in London, area of greatest shortage, are now enough for ten days, compared with slightly over nine in the middle of last week.

Although cold weather is persisting and forecasts are that it will continue the movement of coal by road, rail and sea is flowing smoothly.

London's temperature at 5 p.m. to-day was 26 degrees Fahrenheit, one degree warmer than at the same time yesterday and three degrees lower than at mid-day.

Another 14,000 workers will join the two million thrown out of work by the coal crisis when the Ford Works at Dagenham close down on Thursday. The workers will be suspended, not dismissed, and will be paid an allowance as well as unemployment insurance benefit. The decision to close the Works was taken to-day because of the shortage of small parts supplied by firms subject to fuel restrictions.

At other factories men returned to work to-day as firms put emergency plant into operation. The Philips Radio factory near London, employing about 1,500 workers, resumed operations to-day, using petrol-driven power plants obtained from the Government.

SHOPS FLOODED

A watermain burst in the City of London this morning, sending streams of water swirling down the Farringdon Road. Shops were flooded to a depth of six feet and soon afterwards the wet road began to freeze.

Improved weather off the east coast and in the Thames estuary enabled colliers to arrive almost normally, although heavy seas are leaving 15 ships in Durham.

A goods train, which was completely buried in snow drifts for 15 days in the north was released to-day.

Meanwhile, Government departments are glazing "red tape" rules to aid returning national residents in the United Kingdom, suffering from severe cold and fuel cuts. Special allocations of clothing coupons have been made available to Indian, African, West Indian and other Dominion and Colonial nationals here, but even this has not been sufficient to ward off the effects of the cold wave.

The allocation of 120 clothing coupons enables them to wear three times as much clothing as Britons. The Colonial Office is receiving daily requests from Nigerian and Jamaican students for permanent central heating in their hostels, but this cannot be granted at present.

An Indian woman, who recently arrived in London, said: "I do not know how you exist in Britain."

The proprietors of a hostel for coloured students in London said

Troops and transport workers provided a brighter side to the fuel dilemma by breaking all records since the crisis began, in getting coal from mines to industrial centres.

SAFETY LEVEL BY FRIDAY

London power stations were expected to reach the safety level for fuel reserves by Friday and other points through the country reported that reserve stocks had climbed to over 11 days' supplies.

Industrial sources said, however, that even if many plants reopen on Monday as expected, the crisis has prevented Britain from reaching her 1947 export target, it was believed the Opposition leader, Mr. Winston Churchill, would demand censure of the Government if the White Paper failed to prescribe a remedy for Britain's industrial plight.

A War Office spokesman announced that by to-morrow morning 1,200 Army trucks, manned by 2,000 soldiers would be hauling coal from Nottinghamshire pits to power stations and gasworks.

About 800 are on the job now.

In North Ireland, the Ministry of Commerce announced that electricity cuts similar to those in force in England would be put into effect during certain hours of the day and the use of power for entertainment or sports before four p.m. would be prohibited.—United Press.



ADMIRAL BYRD

PALESTINE

Mr. Bevin's Statement To Commons

London, Feb. 18.
The Foreign Secretary, Mr. Ernest Bevin, told the House of Commons to-day that Britain would submit the Palestine problem to the judgment of the United Nations with the explanation that her mandate was unworkable.

"We do not intend ourselves to recommend any particular solution," Mr. Bevin said.

He said he believed there would be great difficulty in placing the matter before the United Nations before the scheduled Assembly meeting next September.

Mr. Bevin made "one further appeal" to the United States and other countries in the world to help the British with the problem of the Jews and Arabs in Palestine.

CHURCHILL INTERVENES

Mr. Winston Churchill, who repeatedly has urged the Government to refer the Palestine question to the United Nations unless the United States was willing to take the responsibility for peace in the Holy Land, interposed:

"Why, if this policy is right to-day, should it not have been announced a year ago?"

"I think it would have been a fatal policy for Great Britain, with all the leadership she has done in the world in her history, to have gone to the United Nations without attempting to solve these differences," reported Mr. Bevin.

"I know the difficulty, but if we handle this well at the United Nations and exercise care and in the end the problems of the Arabs and Jews can be settled in some way after 2,000 years of conflict, the 12 months will not have been wasted."

Mr. Bevin opened his statement with a confession of the failure of the Government's separate discussions in London with Arab and Jewish leaders.

He said, "It has become clear that there is no prospect of reaching by this means any settlement which would be even broadly acceptable to the two communities in Palestine."

Mr. Bevin said both the Arabs and the Jews had rejected the Government's proposals first for autonomous Arab and Jewish provinces under a central British government and, secondly, for Arab and Jewish areas within a unitary state with a central government in which both Jews and Arabs would share.

Under the latter plan, Jewish immigration would continue for the next two years at the rate of 4,000 a month.

PRACTICAL PROMISE

Mr. Bevin said the second plan marked the first time the government had made a "practical promise of evolution toward independence" by building up during the five-year trusteeship political institutions rooted in the people.

He said the Arabs put forward an alternative proposal for a unitary state which would achieve early independence with a permanent Arab majority, but this was rejected by the Jews. While the Jews did not advance any plan of their own, Mr. Bevin said, they said they were prepared to consider partition of Palestine providing for a Jewish state.

(Continued on Page 4)

ADMIRAL BYRD FLIES 81 MILES BEYOND THE POLE

Fifty New Mountains Discovered

Little America, Feb. 18.
Admiral Richard Byrd, leading two planes over the South Pole on St. Valentine's Day, flew 81 miles beyond the Pole into territory never before seen by man. The planes circled the world in 10 minutes, following each other in a great arc 2,400 feet above the smooth, metallic snows of a high plateau 12,000 feet above sea level, which is the South Pole.

Admiral Byrd, leaning from the hatch of the lead plane, dropped a cardboard bundle of small six-inch flags of each of the United Nations, thus inaugurating the first international aspect in South Polar exploration.

As the result of his new discovery of 75,000 square miles of territory with 50 new mountains, which can now be placed on charts, Admiral Byrd reported there is no break in the great ice-cap at the bottom of the world.

Visibility was 100 miles, which is almost unparalleled flying weather, and enabled the Byrd Expedition to make 10 flights over hundreds of unknown glaciers and mountains, all of which were carefully photographed, leading Admiral Byrd to say: "We saw more in a few minutes than previous explorers learned in years of struggles."

Eleven other men, flying in two navy transports, roared across the Pole at exactly 5 a.m., Little America time (11 a.m. EST) on February 14 at an altitude of 12,000 feet above sea level—only 2,400 feet above the snow which forms the core of the great Antarctic ice-cap.

The two planes which crossed the Pole were the last of 10 to leave Little America in a virtual parade of exploration which began on the morning of Valentine's Day. Never before in history have frontiers of the unknown shrunk so rapidly.

Ten planes flying in pairs discovered and wrote into maps two previously unknown mountain masses of major dimensions. The total effect of their effort is still being assessed and will be announced later.

PRESS CONFERENCE

At a press conference after his return, Admiral Byrd commented: "Mountains that do not show on the map are everywhere, but there are no polar planes now to reach Wade Glacier, then up the glacier to the South Polar plateau and on to the Pole. Returning they descended from the Polar plateau at a point between Wade and Bearmore glaciers. We saw so much that the automatic pilots failed to work and the pilots and co-pilots were forced to steer the planes manually all the way."

At the press conference Admiral Byrd said: "We had to violate flying rules to make that altitude, but it was necessary. If we had stayed within the prescribed altitude none of our planes ever would have gotten over the mountains into unexplored territory on any flight. You cannot get through these mountains and you have got to get high to get over them."

Admiral Byrd wrote a personal message to Admiral of the Fleet Chester Nimitz at the Pole. He wrote so cold he was forced to print the message in half-inch high block letters on the back of a folded map and finished the message about a foot and a half long.

LIMITLESS PLATEAU

Admiral Byrd said it was the first time in history anyone had gone any appreciable distance beyond the Pole. He went about 10 miles past it in his 1929 flight. He said: "I believe that a limitless plateau extends beyond the Pole—the biggest and highest in the world."

After flying up the length of Wade Glacier to the summit of the Polar plateau, the two R4Ds made for the 180th meridian and rode straight down it to the Pole. After circling the Pole, they continued their course 81 miles past the Pole, veered 80 miles to the right and then turned back to Little America.

Admiral Byrd said if there had been any mountain within 100 miles of the Pole in any direction they could have seen it. However, they saw no break in the unending flat expanse of the Polar ice-cap that comprises the world's largest and highest plateau.

"We could see for hundreds of miles to the left as we crossed the Pole and 181 miles beyond the Pole and 186 miles to the right of the Pole," Admiral Byrd said.

Because every direction at the South Pole is north, Admiral Byrd gave the directions as "right and left" from his planes; alternately, southward and northward course across the Pole rather than using compass directions.

DUPLICATES FLIGHT

Admiral Byrd's two planes flew within sight of each other for the entire trip and circled the Poles together. Admiral Byrd thus duplicated

his historic first flight over the Pole, and again made by air the journey which Dr. Roald Amundsen, on December 14, 1911 and Capt. Robert Falcon Scott, 34 days later, first made overland to the Pole.

The temperature at Little America was 18 deg. Fahrenheit when the planes left. The sun shone brightly both at the takeoff and on landing but the flight was rigorous for the personnel of both planes. The temperature ranged down to 40 degrees below zero outside and almost that low inside the planes—the heating systems stopped functioning in the intense cold.

The flags were dropped from a height of 2,400 feet. Those inside the plane were unable to see what happened to them but Admiral Byrd said the box probably burst, scattering a sunburst of international colours across the flat plateau-land of snow which was gleaming in the bright sunlight.

On his previous flight over the Pole on November 28, 1929, Admiral Byrd dropped the American and British flags from a tri-motored Ford plane.—United Press.

Wants To Sell UNRRA Holdings

Washington, Feb. 18.
The UNRRA Director-General, Mr. Lowell Rooks, this afternoon suddenly summoned the UNRRA Central Committee into session for 3 p.m. Thursday and it was believed in informed quarters that the object of the meeting would be to consider the Chinese government's request for permission to sell \$200,000,000 worth of UNRRA goods to bolster its tottering economy.

Members of the nine-nation Central Committee which has final authority in all policy decisions of UNRRA were notified of the meeting by telephone late to-day.

UNRRA sources declined to confirm or deny that the Chinese request had prompted the hurriedly called session but opined that "it was likely." It is understood that Mr. Rooks, because of the sensational and unprecedented nature of the Chinese request, believes it is a matter which only the Central Committee can decide.

The Chinese request which was forwarded to Rooks through the UNRRA Director in China and the State Department seeks the sale of \$200,000,000 out of roughly \$240,000,000 remaining in the UNRRA programme for China which is scheduled to terminate on June 30.—United Press.

SOLDIERS INJURED BY LANDMINE

Jerusalem, Feb. 19.
Three British soldiers were injured when their truck was blasted by a landmine near Jerusalem and at least five other explosions were reported in the troubled Holy Land.

An official announcement said one of the three soldiers—a sergeant—was seriously hurt and that the truck was demolished. The landmine was a crude affair made from beer bottles filled with explosives and was detonated electrically from a nearby field.

The two other soldiers were less seriously injured and the driver of the truck escaped unhurt.

Officials said a railway line near Nablus, north of Jerusalem, was damaged by another blast. Unconfirmed reports of four or more explosions in the countryside said there was "no loss of life."

Jerusalem was battered down completely with virtually all movement halted.

Officers in charge of road blocks leading to the newly-created "residential security compounds" stood with drawn side-arms. The compounds, taken over from Jewish residents and built with barbed wire, now house British citizens.

The new outbreak of violence occurred a few hours after the newly-appointed British military commander, Maj-Gen MacMillan had ordered the postponement of executions of three young Jews sentenced to death for underground activity.—Associated Press.

AUSTRALIA AND REPARATIONS

Canberra, Feb. 18.
Australia is disturbed at American attitude on reparations from Japan, it was learned in official quarters to-day.

Australia wants reparations to be made an integral part of the peace settlement but the United States is anxious to make immediate arbitrary allocations, it was said.

As a result America and Russia are expected to secure the lion's share while Australia is "frozen out."

The Australian view is that she was second only to the United States in the role played by the Allies in the Pacific war.

Australia fully realizes that Britain was preoccupied elsewhere and was facing an acute manpower shortage which left her no alternative but to retire from participation in Pacific affairs, leaving them mainly to America, it was added.—Reuter.

Dean Acheson Defended By General Marshall

Washington, Feb. 18.
The United States Under-Secretary of State, Mr. Dean Acheson, "spoke in line of duty" when he described Russia's foreign policy as "aggressive and expanding," according to General George Marshall, the American Secretary of State in reply to Russia's protests.

"The conduct of the Under-Secretary in answering questions frankly and in accordance with his conscience, cannot be described as inadmissible," he added.

"You characterized the content of his statement as rude slander and hostile to the Soviet Union. Under our standards, restrained comment on the matter of public policy is not slander. Therefore, I know that a second thought, you will not attribute hostility to frankness."

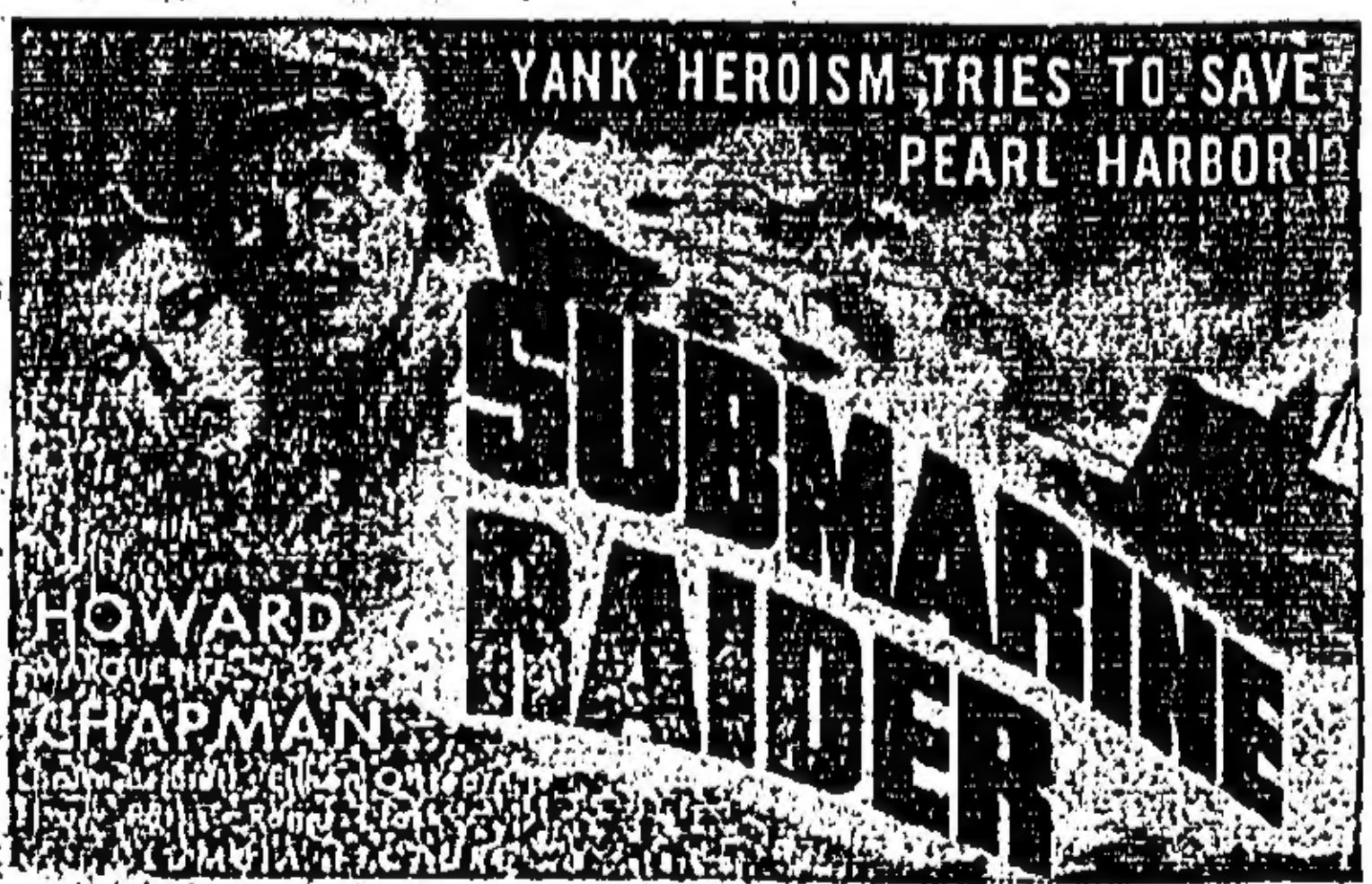
General Marshall's reply is interpreted here as meaning a rejection by the United States of the Soviet protest.

The protest accused Mr. Dean Acheson of "blatant slander" against Soviet foreign policy in stating

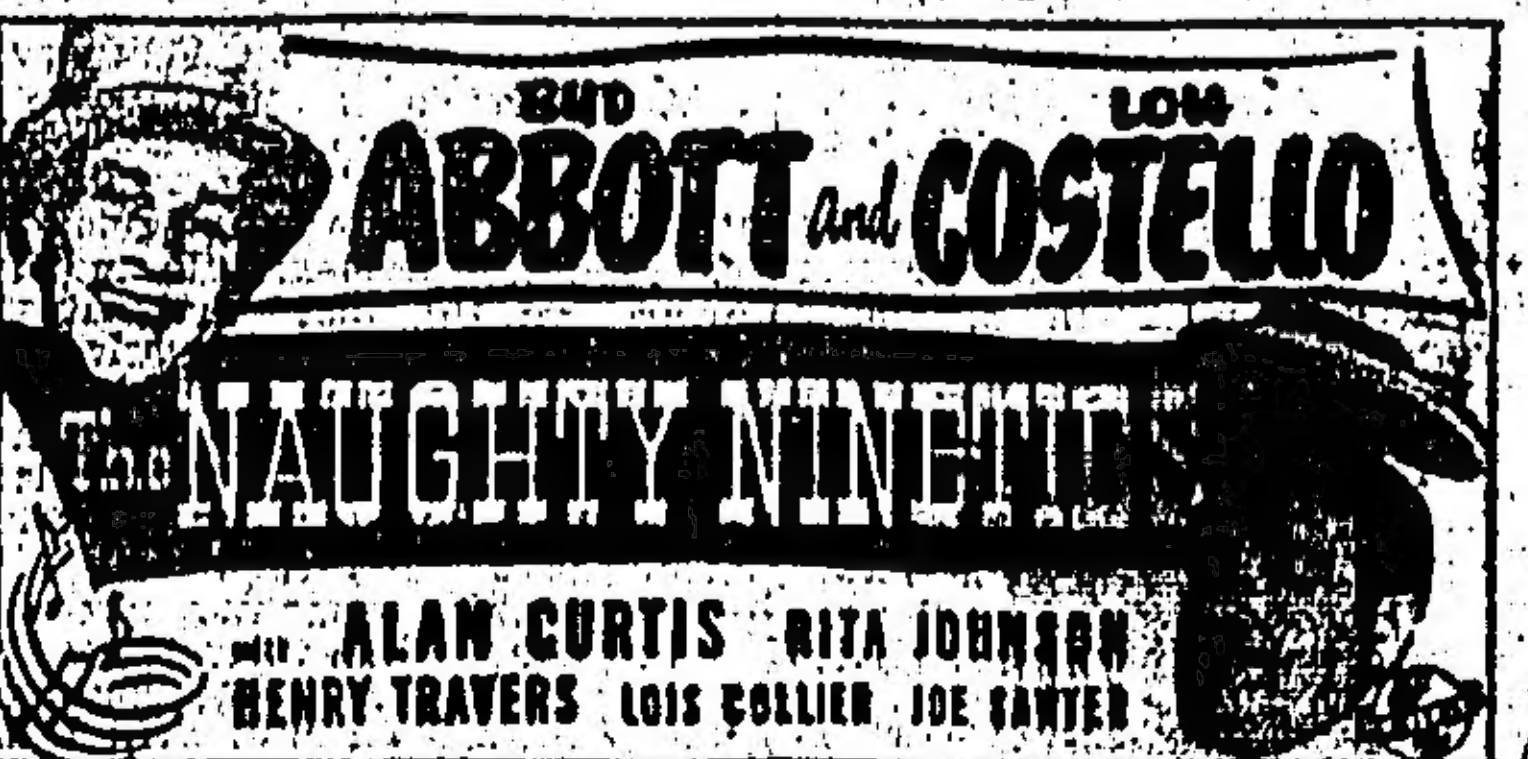
before the U.S. Senate Atomic Energy Committee on February 10 that "Russia's foreign policy is aggressive and expansionist."

The Committee's transcript, published in Washington, quoted Mr. Acheson as saying: "I am quite aware of the fact that Russia's foreign policy is aggressive and expansionist. I think one of the great efforts which everyone is making in the United Nations is the attempt to find a means of solving problems of that sort."

"If those means and agreements can be found then there is hope that there will be no major clashes. If they cannot be found then I think the situation is very serious."

TO-DAY
ONLY**QUEEN'S**At 2.30, 5.15,
7.15 & 9.15 p.m.**"A YANK IN THE R.A.F."**with John SUTTON • Reginald GARDNER
A 20th Century-Fox Picture
TO-MORROWMORE THRILLING AND STARTLING THAN
'LEAVE HER TO HEAVEN!'JOHN
PAYNE
MAUREEN
O'HARA
WILLIAM
BENDIX**A LOVE
THAT CROSSED
ALL
BARRIERS!****Sentimental
Journey**and Presenting CONNIE MARSHALL
Directed by WALTER LANG • Produced by WALTER MOROSCO**CENTRAL
THEATRE****— 5 SHOWS DAILY —**
At 12.30, 2.30, 5.15, 7.15 & 9.15 P.M.
THE FINAL EPISODEWith daring young
Robin, the Boy WonderThe mighty red-blooded Ameri-
can hero comes to thrilling life in
new adventure serial**ALHAMBRA**TO-DAY & TO-MORROW
2.30, 5.20, 7.20 & 9.20 P.M.

Next Change!

"PINOCCHIO"**ORIENTAL**SHOWING TO-DAY: 2.30—5.15—7.15—9.15 P.M.
A SHOW BOAT LOAD OF LAUGHTERS!

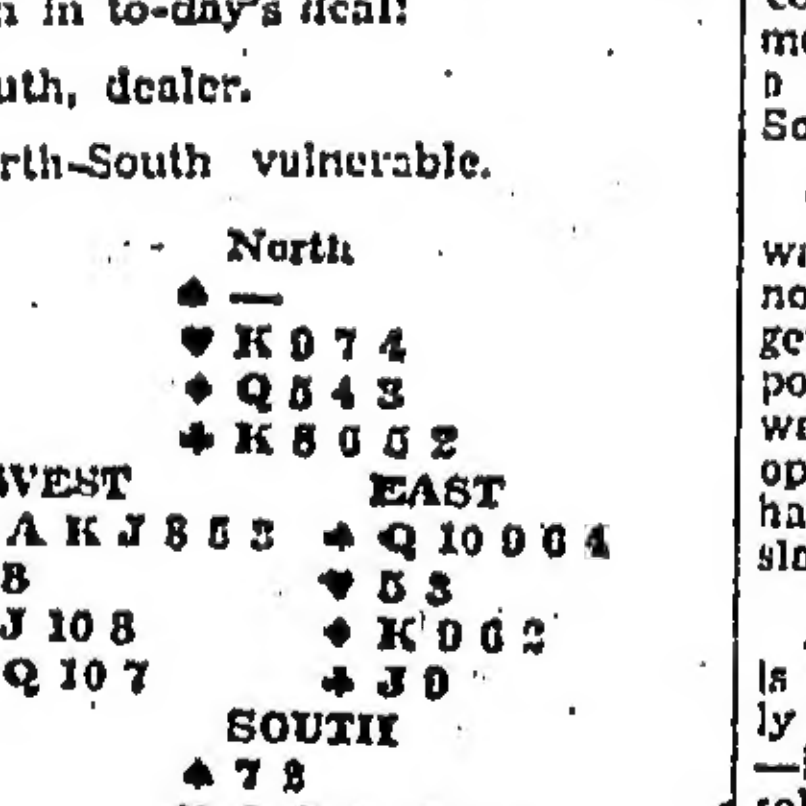
Next Change: "LAURA"

POCKET CARTOON"Now, just tell me what
it is that's unusual about
your act, Mr. Kelton."**WILLIAM HICKEY****CRICKET
MATCH**THERE is a big gap in the collec-
tion of 3,000 sporting prints and
paintings which Mr. WALTER HUT-
CHINSON is going to put on perma-
nent exhibition in Derby House.
He has only three or four cricketing
subjects.Kenson is that the first Sir
Jeremiah Colman had a passion for
cricket equalled only by his love of
orchids.He spent years and a lot of money
getting together the country's finest
collection of cricketing pictures and
prints. There are more than 200,
and the full collection has never
been publicly exhibited.I talked with the present Sir
JEREMIAH COLMAN at his home
near Buntingford, and he has decided
to hang in Derby House, subject
only "to a first choice by Lord's. If
they want a few."This is a fine, sporting gesture, and
will make the gallery the most com-
plete of its kind.When I told Mr. Hutchin-
son, who was ill in bed, he was so delighted
that, in appreciation, he proposes to
lend to Colman the Constable which
he recently acquired for £43,050, "to
hang in his house until the gallery is
ready."In London recently was A. PRIOR
KNOCK and he is A.D.C. to
Prince Erik of Denmark, which
seems so right.STRANGER in town the other day
was the almost forgotten, nearly
legendary JIMMY THOMAS, up
from retirement in Wales to be re-
elected vice-chairman of the Crystal
Palace trustees. The boiled shirts
have passed into smoking-room his-
tory. He has had the job for 12
years, the vestige of his greatness,
and he cherishes the confidence re-
posed in him.Welcoming, Lord ARDREY said:
There is only one Jimmy Thomas and
we would not like to lose him."Still rubicund, full of the joy of
life and still smacking the familiar
elgar, Jimmy rose quietly and re-
marked: "This is not a speech, but
just to say that I am not dead yet."MEN of the Royal Navy threw a
party in London for silver-
effervescent Dr. ALICE NORTH.She is "Doc" to 127 sailors and
Marines who convalesced in her
country home at Castine, Maine,
U.S.A., and added one ton to the
weight of naval personnel.NEWEST contribution to that sense-
less controversy about who
wrote Shakespeare if he didn't
is a pamphlet by WILLIAM
MARGIE who, among other things,
is chairman of the South London Im-
mortal's Club. He has one sound ob-
servation:—"It is often said that it does not
matter who wrote the plays. It does
matter. If it was ever proved that
Shakespeare was a fraud half the
shopkeepers at Stratford would be
ruined and the directors of the annual
festival would look silly."

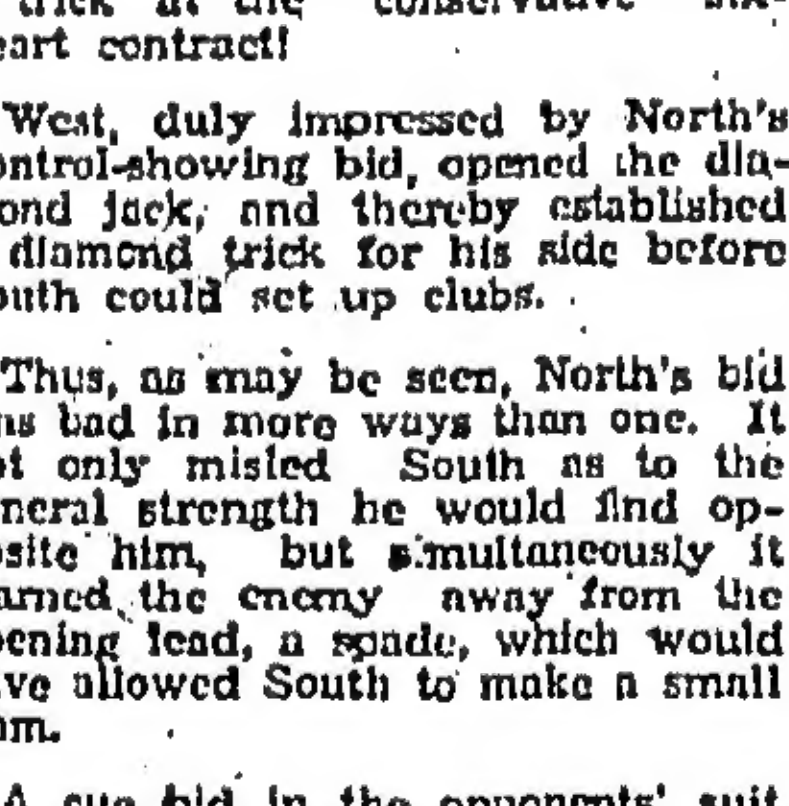
That's sense.

ILLUSTRATING every-day atoms, a
bottle of whisky with the eye-
catching tag, "I'm made of carbon,
hydrogen and oxygen atoms," was on
show when the Atomic Age exhibi-
tion opened in London. It vanished.
Yet a scientist would have known
that the arrangement of carbon,
hydrogen and oxygen atoms was the
only difference between whisky and
this cold tea.FAREWELL quip by GEORGE
MUMFORD on leaving Fleet-
street after 40 years as a London re-
porter:—"Londoners want to know about
London because most of them came
from the provinces."STATE of retail business as seen in
the U.S.A.:—1941: The customer was always
right.1942: The customer was always
left.1943-7: Unless you make the cus-
tomer right you won't have a cus-
tomer left.**Sitting on the Fence:****OLD MOORE GUBBINS
CASTS A HOROSCOPE**1947 WILL pursue its unhappy
course through strikes, res-
trictions, man-power shortages, ration-
ing, scarcity, and unadulterated
misery for all except Sir Stafford
Cripps, who never seems to want any-
thing, but a bit of bread and cheese,
and Mr. Hugh Dalton, who is so amu-
sed at everything, including income
tax.Income tax may be reduced tinner
by tanner or bab by bob, but what-
ever is taken off ordinary tax will go
on to surtax in the mistaken belief
that this is the best method of solv-
ing the rich.While rich men escape by gambling
on the Stock Exchange the real suf-
ferers will be the enterprising and
talented people who create and
maintain employment.The chief sufferers will be those
who provide the only relief to the
national gloom—the artists and enter-
tainers who, for big money while
they are fashionable and will have
nothing to save for their old age.But as Old Moore Gubbins in his
present mood doesn't think that any-
body (but those who are already old)
will have an old age, this doesn't
matter very much.Anything you want will be ex-
ported, and anything you don't want,
like dried eggs, will be imported.Countries like Holland, which were
on the verge of starvation eighteen
months ago, will want to sell us food.
Negotiations will take so long that
it will all go bad.Countries like France, which were
supposed to be on the verge of star-
vation for six years, will continue to
send us giant athletes who will win
tennis championships, boxing mat-
ches, and any other sporting com-
petition that happens to be going.Although most of us seem to have
more sugar than we need, neither
sugar nor anything else will come off
the ration in 1947. The Government
will be accused of rationing for ration-
ing's sake.The time lag between the collection
of dirty laundry and the delivery of
clean laundry will increase from four
to five weeks.1948 WILL start with a cut in
the cheese ration because
negotiations for the purchase of 50-
000,000 Dutch cheeses will break
down.This will be achieved by long-
haired young men of the Ministry of
Food who were so terribly clever
at economics at Oxford but are not
so terribly clever when dealing with
Dutch farmers.Later on, the bacon ration will
also be cut because Danish and Irish
farmers will have grown tired of
talking nonsense to the long-haired
young men and will sell their pro-
duce to the Russians, who, as usual,
at least know what they want.Rupert looks ruefully at the clock
donkey. "He is rather aggravating,"
he murmurs. "He doesn't jump when
people want him to, and he..."Suddenly, without any warning,
Ninky jumps straight up into their
faces, catching them so much by
surprise that the stockbroker and the
Toy Scout topple over and Rupert
himself nearly does the same. Before
they can recover, the donkey makes
another jump and disappears into
the dark passage, only to be seen
again.

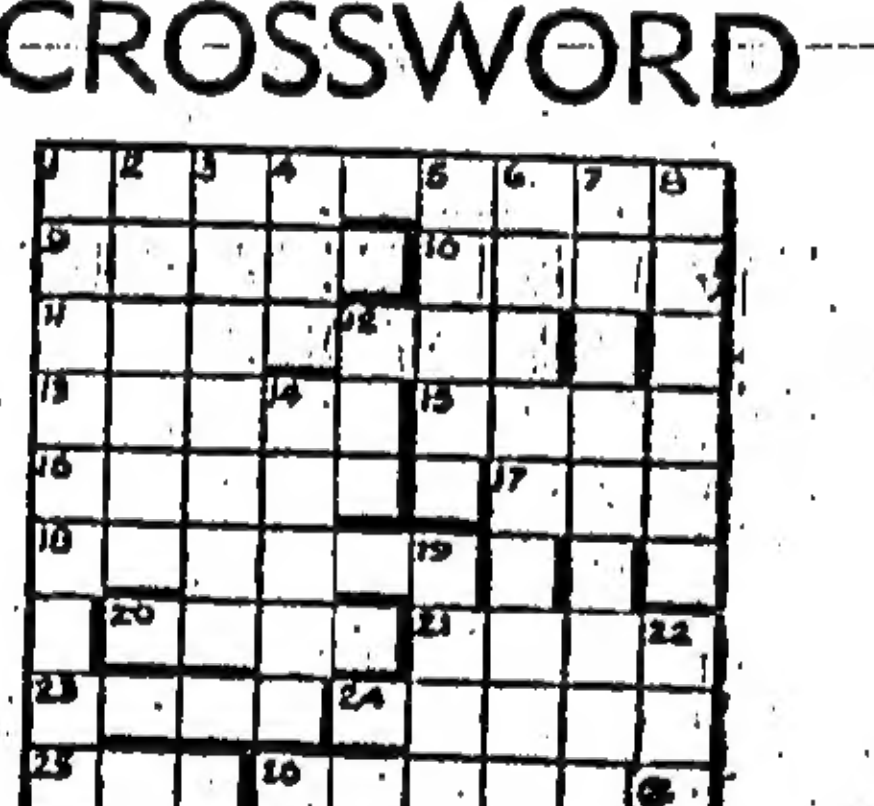
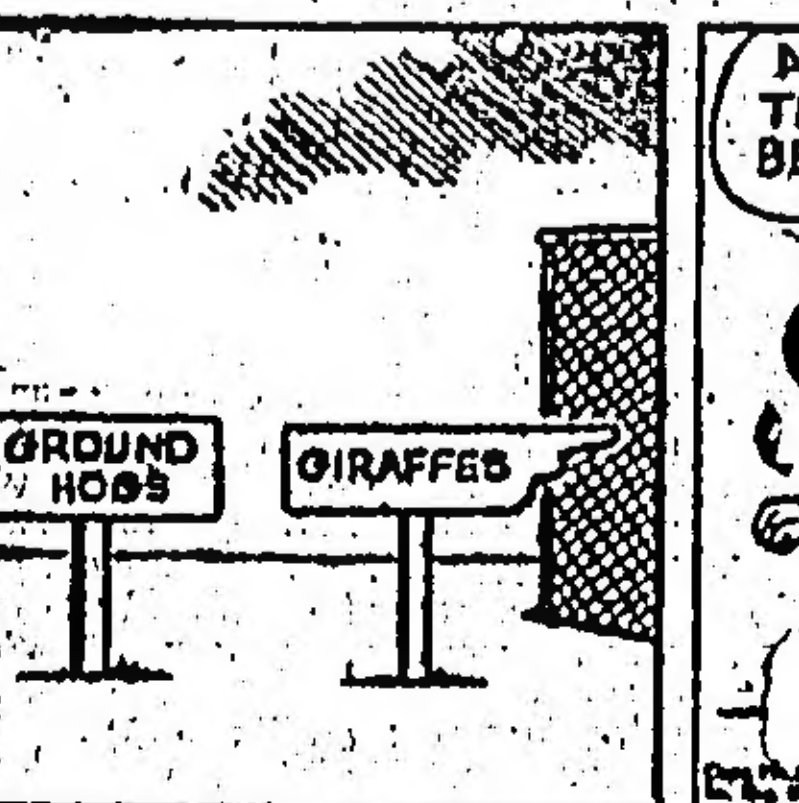
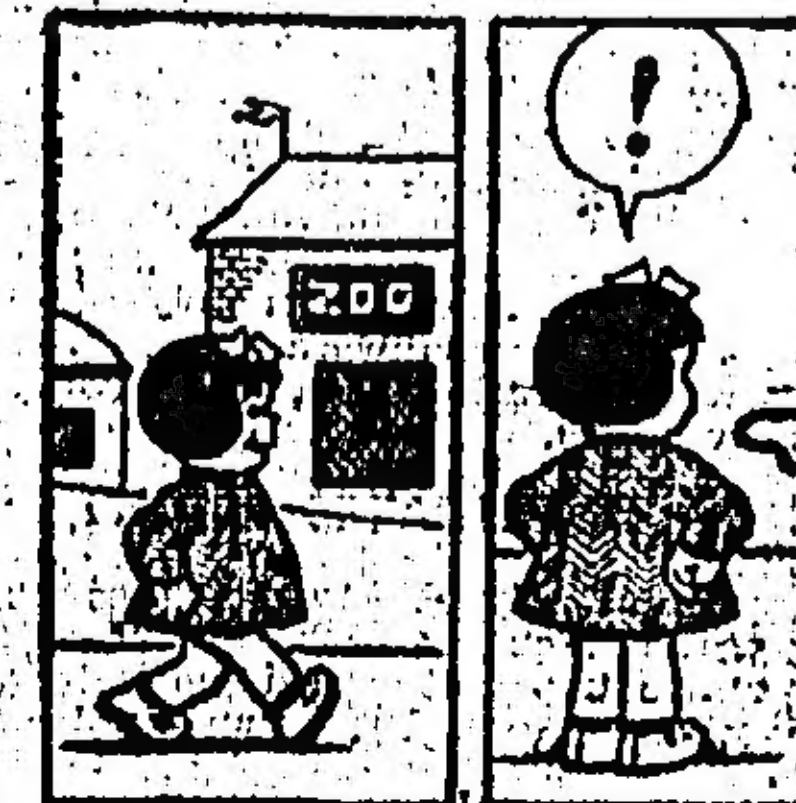
ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

**UNDER the baleful influence of social restrictions
and malnutrition, Nathaniel Gubbins, famous
humorist, offers to his unhappy readers his gloomy
predictions for the next five years. Only those of
strong, resolute character and independent spirit,
impervious to the mass suggestion of sickly pro-
phets, should read these prophecies.**By this time the Germans will be
twice as well fed as the British
and will be growing arrogant again.Owing to the alliance with France
we shall be on the verge of war be-
cause an Albanian has hit a French-
man in a cafe.The Forces will be mobilised, the
Home Guard called out, and when
the whole thing has been settled by
a British apology to Albania for
allowing Frenchmen in Albanian
cafes, another bob will go on our
income tax to pay for the mobilisa-
tion.The stocks of sugar will be so
large now that tons of it will be
choking the grocers' shops.All appeals to take it off the ration
or send it to the chocolate manufac-
turers will be refused.The Government will be again ac-
cused of rationing for rationing's
sake.The time lag between the collection
of dirty laundry and the delivery of
clean laundry will increase from
five to six weeks. We shall witness
the extraordinary spectacle of busi-
nessmen begging laundries for one
clean handkerchief on their way to
the office.1949 WILL open with another
threat of war because a
Frenchman has run off with an
Italian's wife.After a full mobilisation and an-
other apology by the British Govern-
ment, another bob will go on the
income tax, bringing it back to 9/ in
the £.The Germans will be eating so
much now that they will all have
enough strength to raise their right
arm and shout "Heil Hitler."The British will be so under-nour-
ished that they won't have enough
strength to stop them.Up to this time our tiny bacon
ration will have been maintained by
imports from Canada. But the Min-
istry of Food will send one of its
long-haired experts to talk rubbish
to Canadian farmers and that will be
the end of that.Foreign athletes, full of Danish,
Irish and Canadian bacon, to say no-
thing of millions of Dutch cheeses,
will now be so enormous that the
little half-starved British athletes
will have to withdraw from the
Olympic Games.The Argentine, thinking it all
rather unfair, will send us another
gift of meat. This will be the signal
for a lightning, unofficial strike at all
the meat markets so that nobody
will get any.1948 WILL start with a cut in
the cheese ration because
negotiations for the purchase of 50-
000,000 Dutch cheeses will break
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people want him to, and he..."Suddenly, without any warning,
Ninky jumps straight up into their
faces, catching them so much by
surprise that the stockbroker and the
Toy Scout topple over and Rupert
himself nearly does the same. Before
they can recover, the donkey makes
another jump and disappears into
the dark passage, only to be seen
again.

ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

The time lag between the collec-
tion of dirty laundry and the deliv-
ery of clean laundry will increase
from six weeks to seven weeks. The
first raid on laundries by armed
businessmen wearing dirty shirts will
take place.1950 WILL be General Election
year. Apart from the heat
of this battle the French
Alliance will get us into more
trouble.A Frenchman will put out his
tongue at a Spaniard across the fron-
tier and we shall mobilise again.At first the British Government
will refuse to apologise to Spain
for the incident. But as the entire
French and Russian Press and 5,000
American columnists will call us
perfidious we shall give way.The cost of the mobilisation will
put income tax back to the wartime
rate of 10/ in the £. Surtax will
be 19/11 after the first £2,000 a year,
and £1 in the £ after £3,000 a
year. This will make it hardly
worth while being the Chancellor of
the Exchequer.The Germans will be so stuffed
with food now that they will say
that Hitler is still alive.1949 WILL open with another
threat of war because a
Frenchman has run off with an
Italian's wife.After a full mobilisation and an-
other apology by the British Govern-
ment, another bob will go on the
income tax, bringing it back to 9/ in
the £.The Germans will be eating so
much now that they will all have
enough strength to raise their right
arm and shout "Heil Hitler."The British will be so under-nour-
ished that they won't have enough
strength to stop them.Up to this time our tiny bacon
ration will have been maintained by
imports from Canada. But the Min-
istry of Food will send one of its
long-haired experts to talk rubbish
to Canadian farmers and that will be
the end of that.Foreign athletes, full of Danish,
Irish and Canadian bacon, to say no-
thing of millions of Dutch cheeses,
will now be so enormous that the
little half-starved British athletes
will have to withdraw from the
Olympic Games.The Argentine, thinking it all
rather unfair, will send us another
gift of meat. This will be the signal
for a lightning, unofficial strike at all
the meat markets so that nobody
will get any.1948 WILL start with a cut in
the cheese ration because
negotiations for the purchase of 50-
000,000 Dutch cheeses will break
down.This will be achieved by long-
haired young men of the Ministry of
Food who were so terribly clever
at economics at Oxford but are not
so terribly clever when dealing with
Dutch farmers.Later on, the bacon ration will
also be cut because Danish and Irish
farmers will have grown tired of
talking nonsense to the long-haired
young men and will sell their pro-
duce to the Russians, who, as usual,
at least know what they want.Rupert looks ruefully at the clock
donkey. "He is rather aggravating,"
he murmurs. "He doesn't jump when
people want him to, and he..."Suddenly, without any warning,
Ninky jumps straight up into their
faces, catching them so much by
surprise that the stockbroker and the
Toy Scout topple over and Rupert
himself nearly does the same. Before
they can recover, the donkey makes
another jump and disappears into
the dark passage, only to be seen
again.

ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

1951 WILL see Britain an armed
camp again.
The constant threat of war be-
cause a Frenchman has tripped up
a Russian in the dark or slapped an
Italian's face or kicked an Albanian
in the pants will call for permanent
mobilisation.This will not only mean the end
of the export drive but the end of
the middle classes, who will go on
strike at last.With income tax at 15/ in the £
and surtax at £1 a £ after the first
£500, it won't be worth while doing
anything but hump meat around
Smithfield Market.But as we shall be able to buy
meat from abroad and as British
farmers will be too disheartened by
taxation to grow it, and as nobody
will be able to afford it anyway, the
Smithfield job won't be worth while
either.At first the strike of the middle
classes will be a joke among the
masses.It will be a joke until there are
no doctors to attend the sick, no
dentists to pull an aching tooth, no
lawyers (perhaps they won't mind
that so much) to administer the law,
no architects to design houses and
public buildings, no theatres, no
cinemas, no radio to entertain, no
new books or magazines to read, no
pictures to see, no music to hear,
and no newspapers to print the news.All this might be borne except
that publicans, who also belong to
the middle classes, will be on strike,
too. With income tax at that rate
it won't be worth while opening the
pubs.This is where the joke ends, ex-
cept that income tax officials will
come out with other members of the
middle classes.Meanwhile sugar will be piling
up in the streets, stopping all traffic.
But it will still be rationed. No
laundry will be returned to anybody
and desperate, dirty, half-naked
businessmen will be charging barri-
caded laundries in the face of intense
machine-gun fire from embattled
laundresses shooting at them from
the roof, windows and weapon pits.The German Army, 10,000,000
strong, will be the best fed and
equipped in the world.Hitler will reappear disguised as
Father Christmas at a party given
to German children by the last
British regiment in Hamburg.He will announce that his patience
is exhausted again.Then a Frenchman will thumb his
nose at a German and that will be
it.Christmas 1951 in Britain will be
spent in deep shelters with no
turkeys.Note: The astrologer Old Moore
Gubbins can't see further into 1952.
In his present state of depression he
believes there is nothing to see.**CROSSWORD**Across
1. They may be responsible for har-
mony or discord. (6)
2. Harsh. (6)
3. Min says she is the making of
him. (6)
4. The Moslem's holy of holies. (4)
5. To come back to a pretender. (4)
6. Case (relating to the poets). (5)
7. A word or phrase. (3)
8. A fragment of a story. (4)
9. Catch the police. (4)
10. Nixup. (4)
11. Nannie: Indian fashion. (4)
12. A fine for a change. (5)
13. Where the head long goes. (3)
14. He was a traitor. (5)Down
1. Quite enough to menace Tim. (9)
2. Rascals. (6)
3. Must an R.A. come from here?
(4)
4. The temper of a fireman. (3)
5. Scaled. (5)
6. One won't cheat the. (5)
7. Fruit. (5)
8. The pen to make a miser? (5)
9. A clumsy phid. (5)
10. Take heed. (4)
11. Hebelious colour. (5)Solution of yesterday's puzzle: Across
1. Harmony. 2. Quarrel. 3. Case. 4. Mos-
que. 5. Pretender. 6. Poet. 7. Word. 8. Fragment.
Down
1. Threaten. 2. Rascals. 3. Must. 4. Temper. 5. Scaled. 6. One. 7. Fruit. 8. The pen. 9. A clumsy phid. 10. Take heed. 11. Hebelious colour.**NANCY** Matter of Direction**When You Feel Tired
and Restless**take
**Elliotts Nerve
and
Brain Tonic**

On Sale at All Dispensaries

Women BEAUTY ARTS

This Space Every Day
By LOIS LEEDS



Posed by Jane Wyman for Lois Leeds.
Here's the latest hairdo and how to do it!

MONEY HAIRDO!

Here's a new hairdo with an amazing title—and a good one, too, both title and hairdo!

Attractive star Jane Wyman, in Warner Brothers' "Night and Day" models this new short style.

The curls should not be rolled tight but round and flat, about the size of a silver dollar. These "dollar curls" around the sides and front. The back hair should be rolled in curls about the size of a half dollar, rolled and flat. It is smart to use a hair lotion when making your "dollar curls."

Use your fingers to comb out the curls and they are set. Just break up the curls with your fingers, then comb them into shape and can air to the hair. This is a charming style and is becoming a favorite among young women.

Facts About Hair

Hair doesn't grow just because you want it to. It grows when you are healthy and your circulation is good.

You must brush your hair. You must massage your scalp. Don't expect your hair to grow as fast as it should because you are not taking "few ticks" with a hairbrush.

You must protect the length and beauty of your hair.

Princess Make-up & GABRIELLE



Do you know that if your hair is dry you need more fats and oils in your diet? Do you know that it is better for your posture to sleep on a hard bed than on a soft one? Do you know that you can get false eyelashes and false fingernails once again?

SIDE GLANCES By Galbraith



"These are some of the homes they recommend—can you imagine us in there in ten years of so, with nine kids?"

"Hollywood A Vulgar, Artificial Place"

—Miss Australia

"I wouldn't take a dozen Hollywoods for Brisbane," declared Miss Rhonda Kelly, ("Miss Australia") when she arrived back in Australia from her tour of England, Europe and America.

"Hollywood is a showy, vulgar, artificial, unnatural, and circus-like place," Miss Kelly declared, in what will probably go down as the most forthright statement about the film colony yet made.

Miss Kelly's companion, Miss Rhonda Felgate, said that acting in England was on a much higher plane than in America, but dramatists in America were achieving far more than English dramatists.

Some of the Hollywood stars are charming, Miss Kelly observed, "but lots of them are uninteresting, artificial, vulgar, and dumb. Small scenes have to be taken, and taken again. The actors and actresses—most of them—seem so shallow."

Paris and London are marvellous, Miss Kelly said. Paris bears few war scars, and though England shows much more damage, London still fascinates the traveller.

Getting back to Hollywood, Miss Kelly mentioned a number of stars for whom she had only admiration, and whom she excluded from her criticisms. Frank Sinatra, Margaret O'Brien, Jane Russell, Gene Kelly, Jimmy Durante, Betty Grable, and James Craig were some she met.

"Sinatra has a wonderful natural personality, and is charming," she said. "Jimmy Durante is funnier off the screen than on—he kept me in gales of laughter," Miss Kelly added. "Some of the stars—I watched them, and heard them, on the set—forget their lines, fumble, forget what they are told, and generally act like dumbbells."

NO SCREEN TEST

"I was asked to have a screen test but declined. I wouldn't take a dozen Hollywoods for Brisbane."

American and Canadian girls study the art of make-up to a much greater extent than Australian girls even think about, Miss Kelly said.

"As to men, they seem much the same all over the world," she said. "And children—well American children seem to grow up much faster than our children, and lose their youth quicker."

She said she thought the "Miss Australia" tour a very good idea, on the angle of goodwill, but there should be a manager to arrange any future tours.

Death Dust Produced In Canada

An Ottawa dispatch to the Toronto Daily Star said that the atomic energy plant at Chalk River, 125 miles northwest of the Canadian capital, could produce "what is perhaps a more deadly weapon than the atomic bomb—death dust."

These "tiny radioactive particles," said the newspaper, "can be produced in greater volume and at a more deadly potency in Chalk River than in any atomic plant in the world to-day because the Canadian plant is unique."

Canadian press dispatches, however, quoted reliable sources in Ottawa as saying that the current status of a dust by-product of the Chalk River National Research Council plant was largely that of an industrial hazard, and that efforts were being made to keep the microscopic particles of toxic poison from getting into scientists' lungs and destroying them.

Canada is not developing the dust for military purposes, these sources were reported to have said, but in a future war she quite probably could and would.

Defence Minister Brooke Claxton, said in Ottawa that by-products of the Chalk River research might be used for defence. —Associated Press.

PLANNED TO WED, BUT DIED

Twenty-year-old Australian boxer, Reg. Bunker, who died from injury he received in a bout recently, had planned to marry on the money he earned in the ring.

"My father hoped to marry in 12 months' time on the money he made out of the game," said his father, who had maintained a vigil beside his bed in hospital.

"He was a clean-living, hard working boy, who saved his money. He had been fighting for only four years, and had had 40 fights. He had been beaten five times, and hoped he would go to the top."

"While his mother was alive she was very much against his fighting, but I always thought that so long as he was in perfect condition he would come to no harm."

Sagred at Ropes.

In the last round of his 12-round bout with James Hogg, Bunker sagged against the ropes.

Referee Art Mawson noticed that he seemed exhausted, stopped the fight and gave the decision to Hogg on a technical knockout.

Police have been told that the fight was a clean one.

Luzon Railway Repairs Near Completion

Opening of Luzon's trunk railway line from Manila, 250 miles south to the port of Legaspi Albay, at the foot of the Mayon Volcano, will be completed this month, according to Mr. Fernando Sison, general manager of the government-controlled Manila Railroad Company.

The line is already complete except for a long bridge knocked out by American bombers two years ago near the Los Banos interment camp, which is the last of the 328 spans of the company's line destroyed during the war to be replaced.

The United States Army rehabilitated 448 kilometres of track from the liberation until a year ago when the line was returned to Philippine control.

The government now has 849 kilometres, nearly 80 per cent, of the main lines in operation but is greatly handicapped by lack of rolling stock.

British bondholders have substantial interest in the line, which was built by English engineers for the Spanish government in 1899. —Associated Press.

High Birthrate To Stay

Present increased birthrates in Britain and Australia are not likely to fade out as they did after World War I.

This was stated by Sir William Fletcher Shaw, president of the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists.

The majority of patients were not asking their doctors about birth control, but about how to overcome sterility, he said.

Maintenance of the high birth rate would depend on social services, housing, cost of food and domestic help.

MAN WHO LOVES WILL FORGIVE

"If the man loves the girl, he'll forgive."

Miss Hilda Oliver, social welfare officer, whose work for unmarried mothers was praised by the medical officer for Richmond (Surrey, England), in his annual report, has the secret for her success.

She explained, "Above all we encourage the girls to keep their own children."

"I think there is nothing to take the place of a mother's love—a child never feels so secure as when its mother is looking after it."

Although many unmarried mothers say at first that they will get their babies adopted, Miss Oliver considers that "hardly one per cent." of them fall to be real mothers to their children.

Self-Sacrifice. She said, "I have a great respect for some of these girls. They sometimes stagger me by their generosity and self-sacrifice for their children."

"The ideal thing is for them to marry and make a real home."

"It has been my experience over eight years that if the man is the right sort and is fond of the girl it does not make any difference that she has had a child by another man."

Miss Oliver, 33, pleasant and smartly dressed, said of her job, "I would rather do it than any other."

More Support For Welsh Nationalism

Welsh nationalism, a potent factor in British history since the first Norse invaders swept across the island, is steadily rising again behind demands for semi-independence from British rule.

The Liberal Party has begun a campaign supporting the Welsh aspirations, apparently in an effort to gain electoral strength in its increasing drive to regain a position of government influence.

Welsh feeling rose sharply recently after the government rejected demands by Welsh members of Parliament for a separate Secretary of State for Wales. Since then Welsh nationalist candidates have gained broader support.

The Liberals in their bid for Welsh support, which reached a high point under Mr. Lloyd George, have campaigned for a separate Welsh administrative officer and for a Welsh legislature.

The Liberal Party recently approved a resolution saying it was aiming at the devolution of Welsh affairs to a Welsh legislative body so as to enable the Welsh nation to take its rightful place in the union of British peoples. —Associated Press.

Lost His Pet Rattlesnake

Robert Butler, 58, of Brooklyn, who says he prefers snakes to women because "human snakes don't rattle to give you warning," has lost his best friend—a six-foot diamond-back rattlesnake.

The rattlesnake was recently ordered to be destroyed by Magistrate Vincent J. Kowalski who, suspended sentence on Butler on charges of keeping a dangerous animal.

"It is a pet, Judge. It is perfectly harmless. I would like to show you," Butler said.

"Never mind," said the magistrate, glancing at a box where the snake whistled its rattles menacingly.

"I have had it for 15 years and never had any trouble. I do not know what I am going to do. It will sure be a snake," Butler said.

Outside the courtroom, before agents from the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals took the snake away, Butler curled his pet lovingly around his neck for the last time. His eyes were moist. —United Press.

ATOMIC HYMNS WANTED

The Church of England wants some new hymns for the atomic era, reports Associated Press.

The Church Missionary Society has issued a blanket invitation to amateur hymn writers to submit new words and music "to enrich, if possible, English hymnology with a selection of hymns which will express God's concern for the whole world in this new age."

DUMB BELLS

AFTER A FEW CURSORY REMARKS, THEN WHAT? "SAY!"



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TRIBAL MATING PREFERRED

The Indian marriage custom of having the parents choose the bride and groom is "far superior to your American way of marrying for love," says Dr. M. A. Hogue of Punjab.

TREE IS ALSO A GAOL

One of the world's oddest gaols is a bottle tree which is used as a prison at Hillgrove, a few miles from Wyndham, in Western Australia.

Girls Betray Deserters

Women are the betrayers of Allied deserters in Italy, Italian police say.

There are 3,000 known Allied deserters in Italy, and the special foreign branch of the Italian police keeps spy scores of Italian girls as spies.

Said an Italian detective: "Those deserters not discovered by our girls are often betrayed by some other jealous or disappointed girl friend."

"There is not one Allied deserter at large who does not get himself tangled up with some woman."

"The woman often keeps him with her own money and they quarrel or he tries to leave her. Then his number is up."

CHOCOLATE FOR GERMAN KIDS

To improve their diet, a piece of chocolate will be issued every five days to Berlin schoolchildren.

They will be required to take it as soon as they are required to take it, it is not taken home to be sold by parents on the black market.

A similar piece of chocolate is worth 50 marks on the black market. This is as much as many workers earn in a week, after paying taxes and social insurance.

